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Control: 12402
Rec'd: June 24, 1954
7:47 p.m.

FROM: New York

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 876, June 24, 6 p.m.

FOR THE SECRETARY

Re Guatemala.

I told Dixon and Hoppenot this morning that we had worked hard all yesterday to get OAS to take some action in line their position yesterday. OAS did take action last night which met their position. Dixon had informed me this morning his government's policy had changed and they now insisted on UN observation. I had immediately reported this to Washington. I now had an important statement to make to them and I had asked them to come to my office so that I could do so in person. I said that this statement was not (repeat not) in any sense of the word a threat because of course they represented strong independent governments that would do whatever they wanted but that I was instructed by the President to say to them that if Great Britain and France felt that they must take an independent line backing the present government of Guatemala, we would feel free to take an equally independent line concerning such matters as Egypt and North Africa in which we had hitherto tried to exercise the greatest forbearance so as not (repeat not) to embarrass Great Britain and France.

My announcement was received with great solemnity.

LODGE

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